House Study Bill 195 - Introduced

SENATE/HOUSE FILE _____

BY (PROPOSED JUDICIAL BRANCH BILL)

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act relating to state-funded interpreters and translators
- for limited-English-proficient, deaf, and hard-of-hearing
- 3 persons in certain court proceedings and court-related
- 4 activities.
- 5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. Section 232.141, subsections 1 and 2, Code 2019, 2 are amended to read as follows:

- 2 are amended to read as follows: Except as otherwise provided by law, the court shall 4 inquire into the ability of the child or the child's parent 5 to pay expenses incurred pursuant to subsections 2, 4, and 8. 6 After giving the parent a reasonable opportunity to be heard, 7 the court may order the parent to pay all or part of the costs 8 of the child's care, examination, treatment, legal expenses, or 9 other expenses, excluding the costs and fees of oral language 10 interpreters and translators, who shall be paid pursuant to 11 section 622A.3, and sign language interpreters, who shall be 12 paid pursuant to section 622B.7. An order entered under this 13 section does not obligate a parent paying child support under a 14 custody decree, except that part of the monthly support payment 15 may be used to satisfy the obligations imposed by the order 16 entered pursuant to this section. If a parent fails to pay as 17 ordered, without good reason, the court may proceed against 18 the parent for contempt and may inform the county attorney who 19 shall proceed against the parent to collect the unpaid amount. 20 Any payment ordered by the court shall be a judgment against 21 each of the child's parents and a lien as provided in section 22 624.23. If all or part of the amount that the parents are 23 ordered to pay is subsequently paid by the county or state, 24 the judgment and lien shall thereafter be against each of the 25 parents in favor of the county to the extent of the county's 26 payments and in favor of the state to the extent of the state's 27 payments.
- 28 2. All of the following juvenile court expenses are a charge 29 upon the county in which the proceedings are held, to the 30 extent provided in subsection 3:
- 31 a. Juvenile court expenses incurred by an attorney appointed 32 by the court to serve as counsel to any party or to serve as a 33 guardian ad litem for any child, including fees and expenses 34 for foreign language interpreters, costs of depositions and 35 transcripts, fees and mileage of witnesses, and the expenses of

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1 officers serving notices and subpoenas.

- 2 b. Reasonable compensation for an attorney appointed by the
- 3 court to serve as counsel to any party or as guardian ad litem
- 4 for any child in juvenile court.
- 5 c. Fees and expenses incurred by the juvenile court for
- 6 foreign language interpreters for court proceedings.
- 7 Sec. 2. Section 331.424, subsection 1, paragraph a,
- 8 subparagraph (6), Code 2019, is amended to read as follows:
- 9 (6) The maintenance and operation of the courts, including
- 10 but not limited to the salary and expenses of the clerk of the
- 11 district court and other employees of the clerk's office, and
- 12 bailiffs, court costs if the prosecution fails or if the costs
- 13 cannot be collected from the person liable, costs and expenses
- 14 of prosecution under section 189A.17, salaries and expenses
- 15 of juvenile court officers under chapter 602, court-ordered
- 16 costs in domestic abuse cases under section 236.5, sexual abuse
- 17 cases under section 236A.7, and elder abuse cases under section
- 18 235F.6, the county's expense for confinement of prisoners under
- 19 chapter 356A, temporary assistance to the county attorney,
- 20 county contributions to a retirement system for bailiffs,
- 21 reimbursement for judicial magistrates under section 602.6501,
- 22 claims filed under section 622.93, sign language interpreters'
- 23 fees under section 622B.7, uniform citation and complaint
- 24 supplies under section 805.6, and costs of prosecution under
- 25 section 815.13.
- 26 Sec. 3. Section 602.1302, subsection 3, Code 2019, is
- 27 amended to read as follows:
- 28 3. A revolving fund is created in the state treasury
- 29 for the payment of jury and witness fees, mileage, costs
- 30 related to summoning jurors by the judicial branch, costs
- 31 and fees related to the management and payment of oral
- 32 language interpreters and translators in judicial branch legal
- 33 proceedings and court-ordered programs, who shall be paid
- 34 pursuant to section 622A.3, and sign language interpreters,
- 35 who shall be paid pursuant to section 622B.7, and attorney

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- 1 fees paid by the state public defender for counsel appointed
- 2 pursuant to section 600A.6A. The judicial branch shall
- 3 deposit any reimbursements to the state for the payment of
- 4 jury and witness fees and mileage in the revolving fund. In
- 5 each calendar quarter the judicial branch shall reimburse
- 6 the state public defender for attorney fees paid pursuant to
- 7 section 600A.6B. Notwithstanding section 8.33, unencumbered
- 8 and unobligated receipts in the revolving fund at the end of
- 9 a fiscal year do not revert to the general fund of the state.
- 10 The judicial branch shall on or before February 1 file a
- 11 financial accounting of the moneys in the revolving fund with
- 12 the legislative services agency. The accounting shall include
- 13 an estimate of disbursements from the revolving fund for the
- 14 remainder of the fiscal year and for the next fiscal year.
- 15 Sec. 4. Section 622A.1, Code 2019, is amended by adding the
- 16 following new subsections:
- NEW SUBSECTION. 3. "Limited English proficient" means the
- 18 inability to adequately understand or effectively communicate
- 19 in the English language because a person's primary language is
- 20 a language other than English.
- 21 NEW SUBSECTION. 4. "Oral language interpreter" means a
- 22 person who can accurately transfer the meaning of words or
- 23 phrases of one oral language into the equivalent words or
- 24 phrases of a second oral language and from a second oral
- 25 language into the first oral language.
- 26 NEW SUBSECTION. 5. "Participant" means any of the
- 27 following:
- 28 a. A party or witness in a legal proceeding.
- 29 b. A child who is or may be the subject of a delinquency
- 30 petition.
- 31 c. A parent, guardian, or custodian, whose child is or may
- 32 be the subject of a delinquency petition.
- d. A person who is a guardian, conservator, or trustee in a
- 34 probate case.
- 35 <u>NEW SUBSECTION.</u> 6. "Translator" means a person who can

- 1 accurately transfer the meaning of words or phrases of one
- 2 written language into the equivalent words or phrases of a
- 3 second written language and from a second written language into
- 4 the first written language.
- 5 Sec. 5. Section 622A.2, Code 2019, is amended to read as
- 6 follows:
- 7 622A.2 Who entitled Limited-English-proficient persons —
- 8 when entitled to an oral language interpreter or a translator
- 9 without cost.
- 10 l. Every limited-English-proficient person who cannot speak
- 11 or understand the English language and who is a party to any
- 12 legal proceeding or a witness therein, shall be is entitled to
- 13 an oral language interpreter and a translator to assist such
- 14 person throughout the proceeding. without cost when the person
- 15 is any of the following:
- 16 a. A participant in a legal proceeding.
- 17 b. A party who is ordered by a court to participate in a
- 18 mediation.
- 19 c. A party who is ordered by a court to participate in a
- 20 predisposition parenting program in a domestic relations case.
- 21 2. In addition to subsection 1, if a limited-English-
- 22 proficient person is a party who is entitled to appointment
- 23 of legal counsel in a criminal or juvenile case or the court
- 24 otherwise determines that the limited-English-proficient person
- 25 is a party who is indigent or cannot afford to pay for an oral
- 26 language interpreter or a translator, the person is entitled to
- 27 an oral language interpreter and a translator to assist such
- 28 person without cost when the person is a party in a pending
- 29 court case for any of the following purposes:
- 30 a. A deposition in the party's pending court case.
- 31 b. A consultation with an attorney in the party's pending
- 32 court case.
- 33 c. To prepare for a legal proceeding before any court.
- 34 Sec. 6. Section 622A.3, Code 2019, is amended by striking
- 35 the section and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

- 1 622A.3 Payment of oral language interpreters and translators.
- The state court administrator shall pay an oral
- 3 language interpreter or a translator from the revolving
- 4 fund created in section 602.1302, subsection 3, when a
- 5 limited-English-proficient person is entitled to an oral
- 6 language interpreter or a translator under section 622A.2
- 7 and the oral language interpreter services or the translator
- 8 services are not provided before an administrative agency.
- 9 2. An administrative agency shall pay an oral language
- 10 interpreter or a translator when a limited-English-proficient
- ll person is entitled to an oral language interpreter or a
- 12 translator under section 622A.2 and the oral language
- 13 interpreter services or the translator services are provided
- 14 before an administrative agency.
- 15 Sec. 7. Section 622A.4, Code 2019, is amended to read as
- 16 follows:
- 17 622A.4 Fee set by court payment or administrative agency.
- 18 Every oral language interpreter and translator appointed
- 19 by a court or administrative agency shall receive a fee to be
- 20 set by the court or administrative agency. If the interpreter
- 21 is appointed by the court in a civil case for a person who is
- 22 indigent and unable to secure an interpreter, the fee for the
- 23 interpreter shall be paid from the revolving fund established
- 24 in section 602.1302, subsection 3.
- 25 Sec. 8. Section 622A.5, Code 2019, is amended to read as
- 26 follows:
- 27 **622A.5** Oath.
- 28 Every oral language interpreter and translator in any legal
- 29 proceeding shall take the same an oath as any other witness
- 30 consistent with the rules the supreme court adopts under this
- 31 chapter.
- 32 Sec. 9. Section 622A.6, Code 2019, is amended to read as
- 33 follows:
- 34 622A.6 Qualifications, neutrality, and integrity.
- 35 Any court or administrative agency may inquire into the

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- 1 qualifications, neutrality, and integrity of any oral language
- 2 interpreter or translator, and may disqualify any person from
- 3 serving as an oral language interpreter or translator.
- 4 Sec. 10. Section 622A.7, Code 2019, is amended to read as
- 5 follows:
- 6 622A.7 Rules.
- 7 The supreme court, after consultation with the commission
- 8 of Latino affairs of the department of human rights and other
- 9 appropriate departments, shall adopt rules governing the
- 10 qualifications and compensation of oral language interpreters
- 11 and translators appearing in legal proceedings before a court
- 12 or grand jury under this chapter. However, an administrative
- 13 agency which is subject to chapter 17A may adopt rules
- 14 differing from those of the supreme court governing the
- 15 qualifications and compensation of oral language interpreters
- 16 and translators appearing in proceedings before that agency.
- Sec. 11. Section 622A.8, Code 2019, is amended to read as
- 18 follows:
- 19 622A.8 Tape Electronic recording of testimony.
- 20 A tape An electronic recording of the portion of
- 21 proceedings where non-English testimony is given shall be
- 22 made and maintained for one year after the entry of the final
- 23 disposition or sentence or, if the final judgment is appealed,
- 24 until one year after the final disposition of the appeal.
- Sec. 12. Section 622B.1, Code 2019, is amended to read as
- 26 follows:
- 27 622B.1 Definitions rules.
- 28 1. As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise
- 29 requires:
- 30 a. "Administrative agency" means any department, board,
- 31 commission, or agency of the state or any political subdivision
- 32 of the state.
- 33 b. "Deaf person" means an individual who uses sign language
- 34 as the person's primary mode of communication and who may use
- 35 sign language interpreters to facilitate communication.

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- 1 c. "Hard-of-hearing person" means an individual who
- 2 is unable to hear and distinguish sounds within normal
- 3 conversational range and who needs to use speechreading,
- 4 assistive listening devices, or oral interpreters other
- 5 reasonable accommodations to facilitate communication.
- 6 d. "Interpreter" means an oral interpreter or sign language
- 7 interpreter.
- 8 e. "Oral interpreter" means an interpreter who is fluent in
- 9 transliterating, paraphrasing, and voicing.
- 10 d. "Participant" means any of the following:
- 11 (1) A party, witness, or attorney in a legal proceeding.
- 12 (2) A child who is or may be the subject of a delinquency
- 13 petition.
- 14 (3) A parent, guardian, or custodian, whose child is or may
- 15 be the subject of a delinquency petition.
- 16 (4) A person who is a guardian, conservator, or trustee in a
- 17 probate case.
- 18 f. e. "Sign language interpreter" means an interpreter a
- 19 person who is able to interpret from sign language to English
- 20 and English to into an oral language and from an oral language
- 21 into sign language.
- 22 2. The supreme court, after consultation with the
- 23 department of human rights, shall adopt rules governing the
- 24 qualifications and compensation of sign language interpreters
- 25 appearing in a legal proceeding before a court, grand jury, or
- 26 before an administrative agency under this chapter. However,
- 27 an administrative agency which is subject to chapter 17A
- 28 may adopt rules differing from those of the supreme court
- 29 governing the qualifications and compensation of sign language
- 30 interpreters appearing in proceedings before that agency.
- 31 Sec. 13. Section 622B.2, Code 2019, is amended by striking
- 32 the section and inserting in lieu thereof the following:
- 33 622B.2 Sign language interpreter appointed without cost.
- 1. A court or administrative agency shall appoint
- 35 a sign language interpreter without cost to a deaf or

1 hard-of-hearing person to interpret the proceedings to the

- 2 deaf or hard-of-hearing person and to interpret the deaf
- 3 or hard-of-hearing person's testimony, unless the deaf or
- 4 hard-of-hearing person waives the right to a sign language
- 5 interpreter, when the deaf or hard-of-hearing person is any of
- 6 the following:
- 7 a. A participant in a legal proceeding.
- 8 b. A party who is ordered by a court to participate in a 9 mediation.
- 10 c. A party who is ordered by a court to participate in a
- 11 predisposition parenting program in a domestic relations case.
- 12 2. In addition to subsection 1, if a deaf or hard-of-hearing
- 13 person is a party who is entitled to appointment of legal
- 14 counsel in a criminal or juvenile case or the court otherwise
- 15 determines that the deaf or hard-of-hearing person is a party
- 16 who is indigent or cannot afford to pay for sign language
- 17 interpreter services, the person is entitled to a sign language
- 18 interpreter to assist such person without cost when the person
- 19 is a party in a pending court case for any of the following
- 20 purposes:
- 21 a. A deposition in the party's pending court case.
- 22 b. A consultation with an attorney in the party's pending
- 23 court case.
- 24 c. To prepare for a legal proceeding before any court.
- Sec. 14. Section 622B.3, Code 2019, is amended to read as
- 26 follows:
- 27 622B.3 Notice of need.
- When a deaf or hard-of-hearing person is entitled to an a
- 29 sign language interpreter, the deaf or hard-of-hearing person
- 30 shall notify the presiding official within three days after
- 31 receiving notice of the proceeding, stating the disability and
- 32 requesting the services of an a sign language interpreter. If
- 33 the deaf or hard-of-hearing person receives notification of an
- 34 appearance less than five days prior to the proceeding, that
- 35 person shall notify the presiding official requesting an a sign

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- 1 language interpreter as soon as practicable or may apply for a
- 2 continuance until an a sign language interpreter is appointed.
- 3 Sec. 15. Section 622B.4, Code 2019, is amended to read as
- 4 follows:
- 5 622B.4 List.
- 6 The office of deaf services of the department of human rights
- 7 shall prepare and continually update a listing of qualified
- 8 and available sign language interpreters. The courts and
- 9 administrative agencies shall maintain a directory of qualified
- 10 sign language interpreters for deaf and hard-of-hearing
- 11 persons as furnished by the department of human rights.
- 12 The office of deaf services shall maintain a list of sign
- 13 language interpreters which shall be made available to a court,
- 14 administrative agency, or interested parties to an action using
- 15 the services of an a sign language interpreter.
- 16 Sec. 16. Section 622B.5, Code 2019, is amended to read as
- 17 follows:
- 18 **622B.5** Oath.
- 19 Before participating in a proceeding, an a sign
- 20 language interpreter shall take an oath that the sign
- 21 language interpreter will make a true interpretation in an
- 22 understandable manner to the person for whom the sign language
- 23 interpreter is appointed and that the sign language interpreter
- 24 will interpret or translate the statements of the deaf or
- 25 hard-of-hearing person to the best of the sign language
- 26 interpreter's skills and judgment.
- 27 Sec. 17. Section 622B.6, Code 2019, is amended to read as
- 28 follows:
- 29 622B.6 Privileged communications.
- 30 Communication between a deaf or hard-of-hearing person
- 31 and a third party which is privileged under chapter 622 in
- 32 which the sign language interpreter participates as an a sign
- 33 language interpreter shall be privileged to the sign language
- 34 interpreter.
- 35 Sec. 18. Section 622B.7, Code 2019, is amended to read as

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- 1 follows:
- 2 **622B.7** Fee.
- 3 An A sign language interpreter appointed under this chapter
- 4 is entitled to a reasonable fee and expenses as determined
- 5 by the rules applying to that proceeding. This schedule
- 6 shall be furnished to all courts and administrative agencies
- 7 and maintained by them. If the sign language interpreter is
- 8 appointed by the court, the fee and expenses shall be paid by
- 9 the county and if the sign language interpreter is appointed by
- 10 an administrative agency, the fee and expenses shall be paid
- 11 out of funds available to the administrative agency.
- 12 Sec. 19. Section 622B.8, Code 2019, is amended to read as
- 13 follows:
- 14 622B.8 Disqualification.
- On motion of a party or on its own motion, a court or
- 16 administrative agency shall inquire into the qualifications,
- 17 neutrality, and integrity of an a sign language interpreter. A
- 18 court or administrative agency may disqualify for good reason
- 19 any person from serving as an a sign language interpreter
- 20 in that proceeding. If an a sign language interpreter is
- 21 disqualified, the court or administrative agency shall appoint
- 22 another sign language interpreter.
- Sec. 20. Section 815.9, subsection 3, Code 2019, is amended
- 24 to read as follows:
- 25 3. If a person is granted an appointed attorney, the
- 26 person shall be required to reimburse the state for the total
- 27 cost of legal assistance provided to the person pursuant to
- 28 this section. "Legal assistance" as used in this section
- 29 shall include not only the expense of the public defender or
- 30 an appointed attorney, but also transcripts, witness fees,
- 31 expenses, and any other goods or services required by law to
- 32 be provided to an indigent person entitled to an appointed
- 33 attorney, excluding the costs and fees of oral language
- 34 interpreters and translators, who shall be paid pursuant to
- 35 section 622A.3, and sign language interpreters, who shall be

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1 paid pursuant to section 622B.7.
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      Sec. 21.
                Section 815.11, Code 2019, is amended to read as
 3 follows:
      815.11 Appropriations for indigent defense — fund created.
 5
      Costs incurred for legal representation by a court-appointed
 6 attorney under chapter 229A, 665, 822, or 908, or section
 7 232.141, subsection 3, paragraph "d", or section 598.23A,
 8 600A.6B, 814.9, 814.10, 814.11, 815.4, 815.7, or 815.10 on
 9 behalf of an indigent shall be paid from moneys appropriated
10 by the general assembly to the office of the state public
11 defender in the department of inspections and appeals and
12 deposited in an account to be known as the indigent defense
13 fund. Costs incurred representing an indigent defendant in
14 a contempt action, or representing an indigent juvenile in a
15 juvenile court proceeding, are also payable from the fund.
16 However, costs incurred in any administrative proceeding or in
17 any other proceeding under this chapter or chapter 598, 600,
18 600A, 633, 633A, 814, or 915 or other provisions of the Code
19 or administrative rules are not payable from the fund.
20 costs and fees associated with oral language interpreters, sign
21 language interpreters, or translators shall be excluded from
22 this fund. The costs and fees of an oral language interpreter
23 or a translator shall be paid pursuant to section 622A.3.
                                                               The
24 costs and fees of a sign language interpreter shall be paid
25 pursuant to section 622B.7.
26
                              EXPLANATION
27
           The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
            the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.
28
29
      This bill relates to oral language interpreters and
30 translators for limited-English-proficient persons and sign
31 language interpreters for deaf and hard-of-hearing persons.
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      The bill amends Code chapter 622A, which in the bill
33 provides for oral language interpreters and translators for
34 limited-English-proficient persons in legal proceedings and
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35 court-related activities.

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The bill provides new definitions for limited English
 2 proficient, oral language interpreter, participant, and
 3 translator. The bill defines "participant" in Code chapter
 4 622A as a party or witness in a legal proceeding; a child who
 5 is or may be the subject of a delinquency petition; a parent,
 6 quardian, or custodian, whose child is or may be the subject
 7 of a delinquency petition; or a person who is a guardian,
 8 conservator, or trustee in a probate case.
      The bill provides that every limited-English-proficient
10 person is entitled to an oral language interpreter and a
11 translator to assist such person without cost when the person
12 is: a participant in a legal proceeding, a party who is
13 ordered by a court to participate in a mediation, or a party
14 who is ordered by a court to participate in a predisposition
15 parenting program in a domestic relations case. Additionally,
16 if a limited-English-proficient person is a party who is
17 entitled to appointment of legal counsel in a criminal or
18 juvenile case or the court otherwise determines that the
19 limited-English-proficient person is a party who is indigent
20 or cannot afford to pay for an oral language interpreter or
21 a translator, the person is entitled to an oral language
22 interpreter and a translator to assist such person without cost
23 when the person is a party in a pending court case for:
24 deposition in the party's pending court case, a consultation
25 with an attorney in the party's pending court case, or to
26 prepare for a legal proceeding before any court.
27
      The bill provides that the state court administrator
28 shall pay oral language interpreters and translators from
29 the revolving fund created in Code section 602.1302(3) when
30 a limited-English-proficient person is entitled to an oral
31 language interpreter or a translator and the oral language
32 interpreter services or translator services are not provided
33 before an administrative agency. The bill provides that an
34 administrative agency shall pay an oral language interpreter
35 or a translator when a limited-English-proficient person is
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1 entitled to an oral language interpreter or a translator and

- 2 the oral language interpreter services or translator services
- 3 are provided before an administrative agency.
- 4 The bill provides that an oral language interpreter and a
- 5 translator in a legal proceeding shall take an oath consistent
- 6 with rules the supreme court adopts under Code chapter 622A.
- 7 The bill provides that in addition to a court or administrative
- 8 agency being able to inquire into the qualifications and
- 9 integrity of an oral language interpreter or a translator,
- 10 the court or administrative agency may also inquire into the
- ll neutrality of the oral language interpreter or translator. The
- 12 bill amends the section of Code chapter 622A that provides
- 13 the authorization for rulemaking to specify oral language
- 14 interpreters and translators appearing in legal proceedings.
- 15 The bill provides that an electronic recording of the portion
- 16 of proceedings where non-English testimony is given shall be
- 17 made and maintained for one year after the entry of the final
- 18 disposition or sentence, or if the final judgment is appealed,
- 19 until one year after the final disposition of the appeal.
- The bill also amends Code chapter 622B, which provides
- 21 for sign language interpreters for deaf and hard-of-hearing
- 22 persons. The bill provides a new definition for "participant".
- 23 The bill defines "participant" in Code chapter 622B as
- 24 any of the following: a party, witness, or attorney in a
- 25 legal proceeding; a child who is or may be the subject of a
- 26 delinquency petition; a parent, guardian, or custodian, whose
- 27 child is or may be the subject of a delinquency petition; or a
- 28 person who is a guardian, conservator, or trustee in a probate
- 29 case.
- 30 The bill provides that a court or administrative agency
- 31 shall appoint a sign language interpreter without cost to a
- 32 deaf or hard-of-hearing person to interpret the proceedings
- 33 to the deaf or hard-of-hearing person and to interpret the
- 34 deaf or hard-of-hearing person's testimony, unless the deaf
- 35 or hard-of-hearing person waives the right to a sign language

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- 1 interpreter, when the deaf or hard-of-hearing person is a
- 2 participant in a legal proceeding, a party who is ordered
- 3 by a court to participate in a mediation, or a party who is
- 4 ordered by a court to participate in a predisposition parenting
- 5 program in a domestic relations case. Additionally, if a
- 6 deaf or hard-of-hearing person is a party who is entitled to
- 7 appointment of legal counsel in a criminal or juvenile case or
- 8 the court otherwise determines that the deaf or hard-of-hearing
- 9 person is a party who is indigent or cannot afford to pay for
- 10 sign language interpreter services, the person is entitled
- 11 to a sign language interpreter to assist such person without
- 12 cost when the person is a party in a pending court case for a
- 13 deposition in the party's pending court case, a consultation
- 14 with an attorney in the party's pending court case, or to
- 15 prepare for a legal proceeding before any court.
- 16 The bill provides that in addition to a court or
- 17 administrative agency being able to inquire into the
- 18 qualifications and integrity of a sign language interpreter,
- 19 the court or administrative agency may also inquire into the
- 20 neutrality of the sign language interpreter.
- 21 The bill amends Code sections 232.141, 815.9, and 815.11
- 22 to exclude the costs and fees of interpreter and translator
- 23 services.
- 24 First, Code section 232.141 currently provides that the
- 25 juvenile court shall inquire into the ability of the child
- 26 or child's parent to pay costs including the child's care,
- 27 examination, treatment, legal expenses, or other expenses.
- 28 The bill excludes from those costs the costs and fees for
- 29 oral language interpreters, sign language interpreters, and
- 30 translators, and requires that those persons be paid pursuant
- 31 to Code section 622A.3 (oral language interpreters and
- 32 translators) or 622B.7 (sign language interpreters).
- 33 Code section 815.9 currently provides that if a person
- 34 is granted a court-appointed attorney in a criminal case,
- 35 the person shall reimburse the state for the total cost of

- 1 legal assistance. The bill changes the definition of legal
- 2 assistance to exclude the costs and fees of oral language
- 3 interpreters, sign language interpreters, and translators. The
- 4 bill states that these persons shall be paid pursuant to Code
- 5 section 622A.3 (oral language interpreters and translators) or
- 6 622B.7 (sign language interpreters).
- 7 Code section 815.11 provides appropriations for indigent
- 8 defense. The bill provides that the costs and fees associated
- 9 with oral language interpreters, sign language interpreters,
- 10 or translators are excluded from this fund, and that the costs
- 11 and fees of an oral language interpreter or a translator shall
- 12 be paid pursuant to Code section 622A.3. The costs and fees
- 13 of a sign language interpreter shall be paid pursuant to Code
- 14 section 622B.7.
- 15 Finally, the bill provides the costs for oral language
- 16 interpreters, sign language interpreters, and translators
- 17 pursuant to Code section 622A.3 or 622B.7 shall be paid from
- 18 the revolving fund created in Code section 602.1302.